180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3410 (NA-08-06) Date: August 27, 2008

Subject: 2008 Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Detection Survey Results

To: Jo Reyer, Forest Supervisor Wayne National Forest

On August 7 and 8, 2008, Sam Forbeck from this office conducted a hemlock woolly adelgid detection survey of 7 hemlock stands on the Marietta Unit of the Wayne National Forest (WNF). We are happy to report that no hemlock woolly adelgid was detected. The accompanying maps and table provide information and the locations of the sampled stands.

The hemlock woolly adelgid, *Adelges tsugae* (HWA), was introduced into the Eastern United States from Asia in the early 1950s near Richmond, Virginia. The adelgid was present on exotic trees that a private collector planted in his arboretum. The distribution of HWA remained localized for the next decade. Since the 1960s the population has spread throughout the Northeastern United States. In 2007, HWA was reported in Marion County (West Virginia) approximately 26 miles from the Wayne National Forest (for more information please visit: http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/hwa/). The impact of HWA on eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) is severe; significant tree mortality usually occurs within 4 to 7 years after infestation. This insect not only threatens the hemlock resource but the unique ecosystem it creates.

Even though HWA has not been detected on the forest, it is important that field-going personnel continually monitor for evidence of HWA and report this information to the Morgantown Field Office. As part of our continuing monitoring efforts for next year, we would like to visit sites that have the highest likelihood of becoming infested. These areas will include new housing developments, campgrounds, trailheads, and other highly visited areas, if you or your staff know of hemlock stands located within these areas please let me or my staff know.

The WNF should be planning for the arrival of the HWA. Forest Health Protection staff can assist the forest in the development of these plans. It is recommended that the WNF begin these discussions and layout a strategy for dealing with this exotic insect before it is detected.

I personally would also like to extend my appreciation to Dave Greenwood for his valuable assistance identifying stands to survey. If you or any of your staff have questions or comments regarding this survey, please contact Richard Turcotte or Ann Steketee at (304) 285-1503.

Sincerely,

Robert Lueckel Field Representative Morgantown Field Office



Cc: District Ranger, Athens RD
District Ranger, Ironton RD
Mike Freidhof, Timber Program Manger

RMT/AKS/SF

Table 1. Wayne National Forest hemlock stand survey information, August 6 and 7, 2008.

Stand	Comp	District	HWA	Year Surveyed	Location
		(unit)	Found	2008	
21	22	Mar*	N	Υ	Rockcamp Run
36	22	Mar	N	Υ	Rockcamp Run
8	22	Mar	N	Υ	Rockcamp Run
-	-	Mar	N	Υ	Rockcamp Run
21	211	Mar	N	Υ	Witten Run near Alexis
21	28	Mar	N	Υ	Dismal Creek
13	216	Mar	N	Υ	Near New Matamoras

^{*} Marietta Unit



